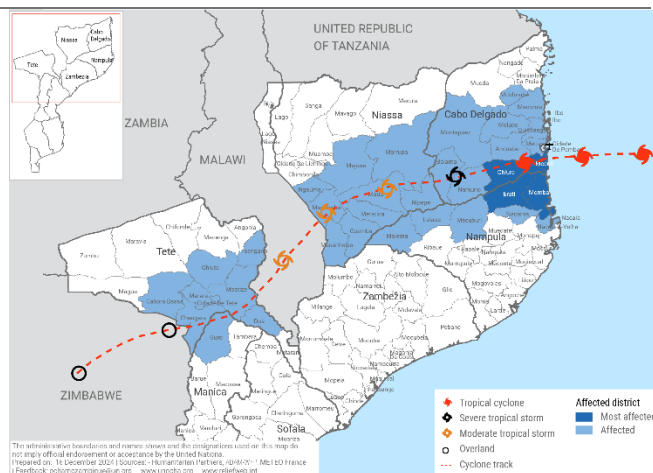


### HIGHLIGHTS

- On 15 December, Tropical Cyclone Chido made landfall in Mozambique, bringing heavy rains (up to 250mm/24h) and strong winds (up to 120 km/h).
- At least, 182,000 people have been reported as affected but numbers may increase as assessments are completed.
- The response in the most affected areas has started but the level of humanitarian supplies is low.
- The Emergency Relief Coordinator has allocated US\$4 million from CERF to Mozambique in support of an early humanitarian response.



**Figure 1:** Trajectory of the Tropical Cyclone Chido. As of 16 December.  
Source: Meteo France

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 15 December, Tropical Cyclone Chido made landfall in Mozambique, heavy rainfall exceeding 250 mm in 24 hours and strong winds (up to 120 km/h) were reported. Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa are reported to be the most impacted provinces, and to a lesser extent Tete and northern Manica.

According to the latest report from the government, an estimated 182,000 people across the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa were affected by Cyclone Chido. The districts most affected are Mecufi, Pemba, Metuge, Ancuabe, Namuno and Balama. The high winds and torrential rains from the cyclone resulted in 45 deaths (37 in Cabo Delgado, five in Nampula and three in Niassa) and 493 people were injured. More than 35,000 houses were destroyed or damaged. Some 48 health units and 149 schools have sustained damages.

In Nampula Province, a Multi-Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MiRA) begins today and will run until 21 December in Memba, Erati, Mecuburi and Mossuril in Nampula Province.

An assessment in Chiure, Cabo Delgado, on 16 December revealed extensive destruction of homes and public infrastructure, significantly heightening the vulnerability of the district's population of 371,742 people, including 192,382 women. Chiure district hosts 36,000 IDPs. The findings underscore the urgent need for humanitarian interventions to address critical needs in multiple sectors as reported below:

**Shelters and NFIs:** Approximately 60 percent of houses lost their roofs, and 40 percent were entirely destroyed, including public buildings such as schools and administrative offices. Of the 14 planned centres, only four are active, all of which suffered severe damage, leaving families without proper shelter.

**Health:** 70 percent of healthcare workers are unable to work due to cyclone-related impacts, 98 percent of hospital infrastructure is operational, but services like radiology and surgery are non-functional due to generator failure. Shortages of medicine and surgical supplies are reported.

**Nutrition:** Cases of malnourished pregnant women were observed highlighting potential increases in child malnutrition.

**Education:** Of 142 schools, 23 remain closed as a result of the armed conflicts, and several were damaged by the cyclone.

**Protection** Many individuals have lost civil documents, limiting access to essential services. In terms of mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS), only six psychologists are available for the district, despite high levels of distress among the population. Overcrowded shelters and a lack of gender-segregated spaces heighten the risks of gender-based violence.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### Cabo Delgado Province

Joint government and humanitarian teams deployed to affected districts the day after the cyclone lancing on 15 December for the conduct of Multi-sectorial Initial Rapid Assessments (MiRA) to enable immediate lifesaving and protection activities. The President of INGD, together with humanitarian partners, led a multi-sectoral mission to Mecufi on 18 December where they witnessed firsthand the devastation wrought by the cyclone. The mission spoke with district officials, frontline responders and affected people, and surveyed the impact of the cyclone on the coastal district.



Chido damage, Mecufi district, Cabo Delgado@ Bony Mpaka

### Joint Rapid Response Mechanism (JRP):

UNICEF, IOM, and WFP have launched the JRP mechanism to support the most affected district, Mecufi. Distribution begins today, on 18 December, to provide emergency kits including food, shelter materials, non-food relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) resources to 2,000 families. Two trucks carrying 20.75 MT of food assistance have been dispatched, the food assistance is sufficient to cover the needs of the affected families for a 7-day period.

**Food Security and Livelihoods:** At least 647 families in Metuge district will each receive 3,600 meticais under the Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) to be distributed by SEPPA, ADRA and

CCM, while Caritas will be assisting 397 families in Mecufi with food packages. FAO is currently conducting an agricultural impact assessment in Mecufi.

**Health:** Fixed and mobile clinics were activated by IOM in the affected districts of Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, with community health workers mobilized for health promotion. Cholera prevention and response kits, including IEC materials, were also donated by IOM to district health authorities in Mecufi, Metuge and Chiure. Mentor Initiative and Ariel Glaser have donated 800 liters of fuel to support health authorities in the continued provision of services.

**Protection/MHPSS:** Existing community-based protection activities (GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response, and child protection) in Chiure, Pemba, Ibo, Metuge, Ancuabe, Macomia in Cabo Delgado and Corrane in Nampura continue.

**Child Protection:** Mobile teams were deployed Pemba (Paquitequete and Mahate), Metuge (Impire) and Chiuri (Kuphe secondary school accommodation center) to provide CP services to affected children. In general, 570 children (223 boys), were reached through community-based services, which included provision of psychosocial first aid, recreational activities and sports. In Mecufi the Child Protection Cluster delivered recreation kits 3,000 children and adolescents.

**Shelter & NFIs:** At least 1,400 households in Cidade de Pemba that were relocated from the coastal communities were assisted with NFIs by UNHCR and Peace Winds. A total of 1,200 shelter kits will be distributed by IOM in Mecufi on 18 December which were delivered through the support of WFP trucks. About 800 households in Metuge district were already assessed by ICRC; it has 1,000 shelter kits available for distribution. NRC is conducting assessments in Metuge and Mecufi; they can support 3,200 households with cash & voucher assistance. Shelter partners have at least 27,000 pre-positioned and pipelined kits that can be distributed to support shelter repair and reconstruction in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** The WASH Cluster identified a lead partner per affected district. The WASH Cluster is supporting water authorities to resume clean water provision in Pemba, Metuge and Mecufi with fuel support. UNICEF distributed supplies (soap, plastic buckets, water disinfectants) to support 6,250 people in Chiure, Mecufi, and Metuge). In Mecufi, with support from HELPO, essential items and health resources were delivered to 30 HHs to ensure access to clean water, hygiene, (30 buckets for safe water storage, 30 bottles of Certeza, a water purification solution, 44 bars of soap to promote hygiene and prevent disease). To combat acute watery diarrhea (AWD), critical drug kits, benefiting both healthcare facilities and the community were delivered (15 AWD drug kits to peripheral health centres, supporting care for nearly 80 outpatients, 10 AWD drug kits distributed at the community level to ensure rapid response and access to lifesaving treatments).

**Community Engagement/Accountability to Affected Population (AAP):** CE/AAP Recommendations for Cyclone Chido Response have been distributed among humanitarian partners.

**Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA):** PSEA measures are being reinforced in all the impacted/at-risk areas, preparedness and early response messages shared, stocks of visibility materials mapped; radio-spots in local languages broadcast in Cabo Delgado and Nampula.

**Humanitarian Access:** UNHAS resumed operations on 18 December with the return of two aircrafts that had been positioned outside Pemba prior to the cyclone landfall. Commercial flights resumed on 17 December.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator has allocated US\$4 million to Mozambique in support the early response.

## CHALLENGES

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Intermittent connection of mobile and internet networks hampers the effective information sharing between partners based in the affected districts and their offices in the provincial capital Pemba. Electricity has not been restored across the affected districts, with agencies relying on generator sets which adds up to the costs of the humanitarian operations.

There are no physically inaccessible areas, but roads in the affected districts are littered with debris and fallen trees or poles, slowing down the movement of humanitarian partners and delivery of assistance.

The heavily affected districts of Metuge and Chiure in Cabo Delgado and Erati in Nampula have witnessed NSAG movements in recent months which could pose additional access and security challenges to the local population and humanitarian partners.

The low level of stocks is a serious concern particularly as the rainy season in Mozambique has just started and the risk of floods and cyclones will continue well into the first quarter of the year.

The ongoing cholera outbreak in Nampula may further complicate the emergency response to Cyclone Chido. To date, 294 cases were confirmed, together with 21 deaths.

Low level of funding for natural disasters remains a concern. In 2024, U\$5.8million was mobilized for natural disaster preparedness and response through the 2024 humanitarian needs and response plan (HNRP).

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**For more information, please contact OCHA Mozambique:**

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